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Subject: Bristol Bay Assessment: Release of Revised Draft Assessment

Date: Friday, April 26, 2013 9:20:34 AM

I am very glad and proud to announce that on Friday, April 26, the USEPA will release the revised draft Bristol Bay Assessment. Thanks to your hard work sustained over many months, this report provides a comprehensive characterization of the biological and mineral resources of the Bristol Bay watershed, will increase understanding of the impacts of large-scale mining on the region's fish resources, and inform future government decisions related to protecting and maintaining the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of the watershed.

The complete revised report can be accessed through the links found on the main Bristol Bay web site: <a href="www.epa.gov/bristolbay">www.epa.gov/bristolbay</a>. The report will be available starting about 1:30 PM EST. The Federal Register Notice will be published on April 30. We have created a public docket which will open on or before April 30 and remain open until Friday, May 31 to receive public comments.

As authors and contributors, you may be contacted about the assessment. Please continue to refer all inquiries to the Region 10 communications team (Hanady Kader – <a href="kader.hanady@epa.gov">kader.hanady@epa.gov</a> and Marianne Holsman (<a href="Holsman.marianne@epa.gov">Holsman.marianne@epa.gov</a>). Additionally, please do not spread word of the release of the revised assessment until after 1:30 EST Friday. The agency would like to notify key congressional and governmental officials before public announcement.

Thanks again for all your hard work. Nice job team!

Jeff

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